

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated July 9, 2002, are respectfully requested for the reasons set forth below. Claims 1 and 21-31 are currently pending in this application.

Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

The claims were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of copending application number 08/798,704. Applicant will address this issue at a future date when either the claims of the present application and/or the claims of the '704 application are determined to be patentable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1 and 21-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "PC-Anywhere" as disclosed by Stanczak "Symantec re-energizes remote-control computing" ("PC-Anywhere") and further in view of Adams et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,913,920 ("Adams") and Frese et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,909,545 ("Frese").

The Cited Art

PC-Anywhere is not prior art with respect to the present application. The article was published in PC Week on July 8, 1996. The present invention claims priority to March 6, 1996. PC-Anywhere is a multi-purpose program that allows, for example, for file transfers and remote control between two computer systems. More specifically, PC-Anywhere allows the transfer of files in both directions over heterogeneous network architectures, is a remote control application, and can provide dial-up terminal emulation and gateway access. As noted by the examiner, PC-Anywhere requires the installation of the software on both the master and slave computers. See, page two, fourth full paragraph, last sentence of PC-Anywhere: "However, pcAnywhere must still be installed on the client."

Frese is barely prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicant reserves the right to swear behind Frese in subsequent prosecution, but does not believe it is necessary to do so. In Frese a system and method is disclosed for remotely controlling an *application program* over a network. The system includes an application interception module and remote display module. The remote display module is transported across the network and executed on the user system in response to a user's request to provide on-demand remote control of an application program. The application interception module captures an I/O stream generated by an application program, converts it to remote control protocol messages and transports them across a network to the remote display module executing in the user system. The remote display module converts the remote control protocol messages to system calls compatible with the operating system environment for the users computer. Likewise, the remote display module converts system calls to the local resource interface in the user's computer to remote control protocol messages which are transported across the network to the application interception module. The application interception module interface converts the remote control protocol messages to system calls for the application program. In this manner, output from the application program is provided to the user's computer and input actions at the user's computer are provided to the application program. Preferably, the remote display modules and application programs are presented through HTTP servers over a network to a user's system which uses a browser having a JAVA interpreter to execute the remote display module and convert the remote control protocol messages.

Adams also is not prior art with respect to the present application. The 35 U.S.C. 102(e) date of Adams is June 27, 1996. The present invention claims priority to March 6, 1996. Further, there would not have been a publication of either the Original U.K patent application or the subsequent PCT application until after the priority date of the present invention. Adams teaches two computer workstations that are connected together by a communications link. A local workstation includes a window which is used to display a copy of what is currently being displayed on the screen of a remote workstation. That is, each time an update is made to the screen of the remote workstation, it must be transmitted to the local workstation. A bounding rectangle for the area of the screen changed by the update is determined. If the bounding rectangle is

greater than a predetermined size, then a first packet is transmitted from the remote workstation to the local workstation, prior to the transmission of the actual update itself. This is to provide quicker feedback to users of the local workstation that update data is on its way. This first packet indicates the bounding rectangle for the updated area of screen. The local workstation responds to the first packet by shading the corresponding region of the window which contains the copy of the remote screen, thereby indicating to a user of the local screen that an update is imminent.

The Cited Art Distinguished

As noted above, PC-Anywhere is not prior art to the present invention and, as such, cannot form the base reference for the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Furthermore, Adams is also not prior art to the present invention. Frese is barely prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicant reserves the right to swear behind Frese and any other reference of record, but believes that it is not necessary to do so.

The present invention allows a client computer provided only with a web browser to control the functionality of a network computer over a TCP/IP protocol network. This is accomplished by downloading to the client computer over the network a client program (e.g. an applet). PC-Anywhere, as admitted by the Examiner, requires the installation of special software on the client computer and therefore clearly does not operate in this fashion. Furthermore, PC-Anywhere is not prior art to the present invention. Frese, at best, allows a remote *application program* to be run on in a limited fashion a remote system, but it does not allow a remote computer to be used as a *fully functional network accessible computer system* as in Applicant's invention. Adams teaches a method for dealing with transmission delays between two computers by providing bounding rectangles to represent updates to a visual display, and, as such, does not cure the deficiencies of the other references. Furthermore, as noted above, Adams is also not prior art to the present invention.

For at least the forgoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of claims 1 and 21-31 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is clear that the pending claims are patentable over the art of record. A notice of allowance is therefore requested. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4300.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appl. No. 08/810,679

APPENDIX

The Pending Claims are as follows. No amendments were made in this Amendment D.

Sub FV
1. (amended) A network accessible computer comprising:

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a central processing unit;

memory coupled to the central processing unit; and

an interface coupling said central processing unit to a TCP/IP protocol network;

wherein said central processing unit implements a host computer program stored in said memory which permits it to operate as a network-accessible host computer for, a client computer coupled to said TCP/IP protocol network, wherein said client computer is operating a browser program having a browser window and a client program transmitted to said client computer via said network to operate in conjunction with said browser program to communicate with said host computer program, wherein input devices of said client computers can be used to generate inputs to said host computer as if the input devices were connected to said host computer, and such that image information generated by said host computer and sent in portions containing incremental changes can be viewed on a display of said client computer as if it was connected to said host computer.

Sub FV
21. (amended) A network accessible computer as recited in claim 1 wherein said host computer program is responsive to keyboard events and pointing device events of said client computer as transmitted to said host computer over said TCP/IP protocol network in conjunction with said client program running on said client computer, said host program transmitting said image information to said client computer over said TCP/IP protocol network for display in said browser window of said browser program running on said client computer.

22. (amended) A network accessible computer as recited in claim 21 wherein said image information includes web page information.

25. (amended) A method of providing a network accessible computer over a TCP/IP protocol network comprising:

providing a host computer connected to a TCP/IP protocol network, said host computer running a host computer program; and

providing a client computer having a display and input devices and running a client computer program and a web browser program, said client program being transmitted to said client computer via said network, where said client computer is connected to said TCP/IP protocol network wherein said client computer program facilitates the transfer of input device events from the client computer to the host computer such that the input devices of said client computer can be used to generate inputs to said host computer as if said input devices were connected to said host computer by sending signals through said network, and wherein image information may be displayed on a display within a window of said browser program running on said client computer as if said display were connected to said host computer by sending signals through said network.


26. (amended) The method of claim 25 wherein said host computer program is responsive to keyboard events and pointing device events of said client computer as transmitted to said host computer over said TCP/IP protocol network as facilitated by said client program running on said client computer.

27. (amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said host computer provides said client computer with said client computer program.

31. (amended) The method of claim 26 further comprising:

establishing a connection between said host computer and said client computer, said connection initiated by said client computer;

transmitting said client computer program from said host computer to said client computer over said TCP/IP protocol network, said client computer program operable to allow input devices of said client computer to generate inputs to said host computer;

 transmitting client information from said client computer to said host computer over said TCP/IP protocol network, where said client information includes client interests, client resolution information, and client computer events; and

transmitting host computer screen information from said host computer to said client computer.
